



**FIRST
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**
OF BRYAN / COLLEGE STATION
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

The Visitor

900 S. Ennis, Bryan TX 77803

979-823-5451

firstchristianbcs@gmail.com

www.firstchristianbcs.org

March 2024

Mike's Musings

Psalm 36:9 (NRSV) – "For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light."

The more knowledge we acquire, the less wisdom we seem to have. The more economic security we gain, the more boredom we generate. The more worldly pleasure we enjoy, the less satisfied and contented we are with life. We are like a restless sea, finding a little peace here and there, but nothing permanent and satisfying. So, the search continues! People will kill, lie, cheat, and steal to satisfy their quest for power, pleasure, and wealth in hopes of gaining peace, security, and happiness.

Yet inside us a little voice keeps saying, "We were not meant to be this way—we were meant for better things." We have a mysterious feeling that there is a fountain somewhere that contains the happiness that makes life worthwhile. We keep saying to ourselves that somewhere, sometime we will stumble onto the secret. Sometimes we feel that we have obtained it, only to find it elusive.

The happiness that brings enduring worth to life is not the superficial happiness that is dependent on circumstances. It's contentment that fills the soul even during the most distressing circumstances and the most adverse environments. The only Source of peace and contentment is in the Lord Jesus.

Jesus provides the only ray of hope that shines as an ever-brightening beam in a darkened world.

Blessings!

Mike



March Sermon Schedule

Sermon Series: A Journey Through Mark (cont.)

March 3, 2024 - *Third Sunday in Lent*

"Taxes to Caesar"

Mark 12:1-17

March 10 - *Fourth Sunday in Lent*

"Great Commandment"

Mark 12:28-44

March 17 - *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

"End of the Age"

Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

March 24 - *Palm Sunday*

"Triumphal Entry"

Mark 11:1-11

March 28 - *Maundy Thursday*

"Lord's Supper, Prayer in Gethsemane"

Mark 14:22-42

March 31 - *Easter Sunday*

"Resurrection"

Mark 16:1-8

March Elders Meeting

March 3, following worship



Disciples Women/CWF

The next meeting will be March 6, at 9:30am.

March Board Meeting

March 10, following worship

Disciples Men/CMF

CMF meets **every third Tuesday at 12:30 for lunch**, at various

locations. If you currently do not receive an email from Rev. Mike about this, please contact him.



Men's Fellowship

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, **March 10, 2024, at 2:00am**. So, before you go to bed Saturday Night, make sure to "Spring Forward" one (1) hour, otherwise you will be late for Church Activities.

Sunday, March 17, is Saint Patrick's Day, the patron saint of Ireland. You are encouraged to wear green that day (but rest assured there will be no pinching)! *Erin go bragh!*



Thursday, March 28

Soup Supper at 5:00pm, with a Maundy thursday service to follow at 5:45pm.

On Easter Sunday, March 31,

we will be having two services. There will be a **sunrise service at 7:00am**, as we celebrate the discovery of the empty tomb by the women of the Resurrection Story. And then at **10:45am**, we will have our **traditional Easter Morning Sunday worship**. There will be no Sunday School on that day. Come and celebrate the Good News that Jesus Christ is Risen!

Run for the House 2024

The Run for the House 5KRun/2KWalk for Habitat will take place **Saturday, April 20** at Lakewalk in Bryan. Our church has been involved in this event for many years. If you wish to participate as a runner/walker, go to the website habitatbcs.org to register. Those who want to help by being a sponsor, may pick up a form on the table in the narthex of the sanctuary. The form explains the different sponsorship levels. All funds raised will go to help build a Habitat house for a family. If you have any questions, contact Jeanette or Anita.

Kraft Korner will be on **March 21st at 10AM**. We will hold a **special meeting time on March 14th** to finish up any Easter Preparations.

Behind the Scenes

The year is off to a fast and furious start. I can't believe it is already almost March. So many things are going on behind the scenes! First off Michael and I would like to thank you all for the wonderful support you have given us and our kids. On Saturday, January 20th, Megan and Spencer were married at 7 F Lodge in College Station, where Michael walked our daughter down the aisle and then did a Mister Rogers style change into his robe and officiated their wedding. It was a cold but glorious day!

We have since had another wedding within our church family, Christopher and Elma Richards were wed here at FCC on Valentine's Day. They were given a special send-off when the kids from SFA who were waiting for the buses cheered them on! This day was also our Ash Wednesday service. We had about 20 people join us for imposition of ashes.

This past week we met with the Faith Based Partners at Bryan ISD for updates on the district policies, state representation and voting, and seeing all the positive things happening at each of the schools. There is more than we can list, so we encourage you to check out their Facebook posts and items that we will include on the bulletin boards in the Fellowship area.

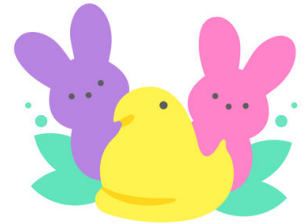


Now that Lent has begun, we are looking into our annual Easter Event and preparing our eggs and treats. **See the article on how you can help us!**

We are also starting our spring cleaning. Tuesday we began cleaning out behind our stage area to reorganize, and make it easier for our many teams

to find the items they need to set up for any event that might happen in our church. It will soon look and function much better for all of us. Stay tuned for more information on our clean-up reorganize days and how you can help us.

Easter Bunny Trail Egg Walk Event



Calling all Peeps!! Our Easter Bunny will be needing your assistance to help us make our annual Easter Event a big success!! This will be held on **Sunday March 17th from 3-5PM**. We are asking anyone who is willing and able to come help us with games, refreshments and passing out eggs to the kids. We will be setting this event up inside and outside.

The Bryan Fire Dept. (if able) will be bringing a crew and truck to be set up out in front of our church, along with several of our Outreach Partners. Our Bryan ISD Ambassadors will be holding games out front as well. We will have a Welcome table and Rev. Bunny will welcome our guests. Inside, our puppet show will take place on the stairs to our sanctuary, with refreshments in the gathering space. Tables will be set up with egg stations and some table games, coloring stations, and arts and crafts tables. Many photo opportunities will be available! **You can stay after church and have lunch with us (please let Karen Townsend know so we have a head count) or leave and come back to help us out.**

Easter Candy and treats are needed by this SUNDAY!!! We will be stuffing eggs soon! A green box is located in the Gathering Space for you to drop off your items. We are also looking for Infant items for Prizes. If you wish to donated funds for this event please put Easter Event in the memo.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

March through June dates are available for Sunday Morning Fellowship. Please sign up on the Gathering Space glass doors to the Fellowship Area. Please have items out by 10 AM to allow everyone time to participate. Funds are available if needed. Please see **Vicki Green** for more details.



April Newsletter Deadline!

The March monthly Newsletter will be published

March 26, 2023.

Articles will be due by March 25.

Please submit your articles to:

firstchristianbcs@gmail.com



Music Ministry

PICKERS – Wednesdays @ 5:30pm

CHOIR PRACTICE – Wednesdays @ 6:30pm

HANDBELL PRACTICE – Wednesdays @ 7:00-ish pm



Greater Houston Area Assembly

THEME

ACTIVATE!!



Rev. Dr. Darren Phelps
Community Regional Minister
of New and Transforming Church



Rev. Dr. Marilyn Fiddmont
Christian Church Foundation



Rev. Dr. Dawn Weaks
Co-Pastor Connection
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Odessa TX



**ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN
& YOUTH WILL BE AVAILABLE!**

DATE: April 27, 2024 @ 9:00am - 3:30pm

COST: Free

LOCATION: Taylor Lake Christian Church,
1730 Old Kirby Rd
Seabrook, TX 77586

WEB: www.ccsaw.org/events



Coastal Plains (Greater Houston) Area Assembly

will take place on Saturday, April 27, 9:00am-3:30pm, at Taylor Lake Christian Church in Seabrook, TX. Registration Cost is free. Please register by using the QR code on the bulletin board flyer, or by visiting www.eventcreate.com/e/cpa-assembly2024. If you would like to carpool, please contact Pastor Mike.

Worship Services

In person and live streamed,
Sundays at 10:45am:

Our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BryanCollegeStationDisciples/>



COVID and the Church: Update for March

We continue to follow CDC, and local Health Department guidance, in order to keep everyone attending our services as safe as possible.

People may choose to mask at any time. **People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a high-quality [mask or respirator](#) when indoors in public.**

Please be considerate of others.

Walk
in the
light
of the
Lord

see John 3:19-21

Prayer Concerns

While we believe everyone needs prayer, those named on our list have specific and ongoing needs:

Diane Andrews (friend of Cheryl Aufderheide)
Julie (Atterbury) Porter
Teddy Atterbury (great-grandson of John Atterbury)
Rose Bowden (sister of Diane Weber)
Nancy Deu Pree (Bob Richards' cousin)
Charle Dishman
Dennis & Pat Henry Dugas (Friend of Mary & Cheryl)
Ashley Forster (Bob Richards' daughter)
Verla Green (Jackie Green's mother-in-law)
Terry & Eva Hart
Leatha Jeffrey (Calvin Jeffrey's mother)
Alexander Lam (Bob Richards' stepson)
Bob McGee
Caton Milstead (Karen Smith's nephew)
Roger & Emily Nichols (friends of Mary Richards)
Monique & David Reed (friends of the Aufderheides)
Brad Slocum (Stacy Atterbury's brother)
Richard Stadelmann
Elizabeth Weber
Reba Wood
John Wright
Family of Nancy Wright
TJ (Anne Parkin's sister)

Shut-ins:

Jackie Kranz,



Church Calendar: March 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	
3 Sunday school, 9:30am Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed Elder meeting following worship Cheri Graalum	4 News from the Pews Due Taylor Rasco	5 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg Lauren Douglas	6 Disciples Women/CWF, 9:30am Pickers, 5:30pm Choir Practice, 6:30pm Handbells, 7:00-ish pm	7 Cheryl Aufderheide Zachry Graalum	8 Jeremy Smith	9 <i>Be sure to set your clocks FORWARD one hour tonight!</i>  Daylight Saving Time
10 <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i> Sunday school, 9:30am Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed Board meeting following worship	11 News from the Pews Due	12 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg	13 Choir Practice, 6:30pm Handbells, 7:00-ish pm	14 Anniversary: Vicki & Larry Green	15	16
17 Sunday school, 9:30am Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed Bunny Trail Event, 3-5:00pm	18 News from the Pews Due	19 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg Disciples Men/CMF, 12:30pm – location TBA	20 Pickers, 6:00pm Choir Practice, 6:30pm Handbells, 7:00-ish pm	21 Kraft Korner, 10:00am	22	23 Anniversary: Melissa & Ben Tedrick
24 Palm Sunday Sunday school, 9:30am Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed	25 April Newsletter Deadline	26 10:30 am Worship Planning Mtg	27 Pickers, 6:00pm Choir Practice, 6:30pm Handbells, 7:00-ish pm Tonya Chandler	28 Maundy Thursday Soup Supper, 5:00pm Service, 5:45pm	29 Good Friday Prayer Vigil (schedule from Mike) Arlen Crouch	30 Mark Weber Dale Claypool
31 Easter Sunrise service, 7:00am Worship, 10:45am, in person & live-streamed						